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BRITISH HONDURAS.

*Report from Belize.*BELIZE, BRITISH HONDURAS, *July 13, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose the reports of the registrar-general for the last two weeks. Have heard of no other case of typhoid fever. The steamer *Breakwater* clears from this port this a. m. for New Orleans, master, Rivera; 15 passengers—12 in transit, and 3 from Belize; cargo, mail, fruit; 35 in crew. The schooner *Margaret S. Smith* (Marcial) cleared from this port on the 7th instant for Tuxillo, thence to Mobile; no passengers.

Respectfully,

N. K. VANCE,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosures.]

*List of deaths registered in the town of Belize from the 29th ultimo to date.*BELIZE, *July 5, 1900.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Certified by medical practitioner— | |
| Phthisis pulmonalis (a)..... | 1 |
| Tetanus (b)..... | 1 |
| Certified by district commissioner or police..... | 0 |
| Certified by coroner..... | 0 |
| Uncertified..... | 0 |
| Total..... | 2 |

a Died in hospital. b Under 5 years of age.

A. K. YOUNG,
*Registrar-General.**List of deaths registered in the town of Belize from the 6th instant to date.*BELIZE, *July 12, 1900.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Certified by medical practitioner— | |
| Croup..... | 1 |
| Morbus cordis..... | 1 |
| Peritonitis (a)..... | 1 |
| Certified by district commissioner or police..... | 0 |
| Certified by coroner..... | 0 |
| Uncertified..... | 0 |
| Total..... | 3 |

a Under 5 years of age.

A. K. YOUNG,
Registrar-General.

COLOMBIA.

*Reports from Bocas del Toro.*BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, *July 7, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit report for the week ended July 7.

The following vessels have been inspected and cleared: July 4, steamship *Simon Dumois*, Nieunegaar; 15 crew; no passengers; Mobile. July 5, steamship *Banes*, Tronstad; 16 crew; no passengers; Mobile. July 7, steamship *Colombia*, Hertzberg; 17 crew; no passengers; Philadelphia.

The health conditions of Bocas and vicinity are good. During the past week there has been a little more malarial fever observed, but of the same mild type as is usually prevalent.

The hospital at Monkey Cay has had no inmates for several weeks and the health on the plantations among the employees is fairly good.

There have been 2 deaths during the past week—1 male Chinaman, heart disease; 1 male negro, knife wound.

Respectfully,

HERMAN B. MOHR,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Method of handling fruit.

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, *July 13, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that I left Port Limon, Costa Rica, July 6, 1900, at 4 a. m. on the small steamer *Sunset*, for Bocas del Toro direct.

All personal baggage had been previously disinfected under the supervision of Acting Asst. Surg. J. Grey Thomas, of the Marine-Hospital Service.

I arrived at Bocas del Toro at 11 a. m. the same day, a run from point to point of seven hours, distance 57 miles. The topography and its immediate surrounding cays of Bocas del Toro, of which there are a number lying in the Chiriqui lagoon, and which may be noted in chart previously forwarded to the Bureau by Acting Asst. Surg. Herman B. Mohr. The nature of the official work of Dr. Mohr occasionally prevents his accompanying the fruit ships on their trips to the various subports. The mode of loading fruit ships is by barges or lighters, these subports having no landings, which are brought alongside of the ship by naphtha launches, and unloaded by the fruit crew, taken on board of ship at Bocas del Toro, and when clothing has been previously disinfected by formaldehyd vapor.

I made the round trip in steamship *Barnstable*, Higgins master, a fruit ship which stopped at the following subports, more commonly known as fruit stations: Chiriquicite, Monkey Cay, Rabala, again to Chiriquicite, Crisonuota, and from the latter returned to Bocas del Toro.

With the exception of Bocas del Toro, which is located on Admiral's Bay, the 4 subports above named are located on Chiriqui lagoon, an expanse of water extending 32 miles from east to west and is 12 miles in widest part from north to south, and southeast from Bocas del Toro. The round trip of fruit steamers is estimated at a little more than 124 miles, and requires on the average about thirty hours to complete the trip. Although Bocas del Toro has excellent wharf accommodations, all vessels are unloaded and loaded with fruit in the bay by means of lighters, especially during the quarantine season, and only occasionally at other times is the dock made use of. At the present time steamers of the United Fruit Company clear for Baltimore, Md., and Philadelphia, Pa., and I am also informed by the local fruit agents that the steamers will probably continue to run to the said ports for the remainder of the quarantine season at least. The fruit firms of Camoro, McConnell & Co., and the Alabama Fruit Company, consign their cargos of fruit to Mobile, Ala. There are no fruit ships from this port at this date, which clear for New Orleans La.

The disinfecting plant is suitably located near the wharf, and all